

Minutes of the Jasper Community Arts Commission

City of Jasper, Indiana held July 5, 2005

The regular meeting of the Jasper Community Arts Commission was held at 4:30 pm on Tuesday, July 5, 2005 at the Jasper Arts Center. Doug Abbett was nominated President Pro Tem by **Sylvia Metzger**, seconded by **Don Weisheit**. Motion passed 6-0. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and then roll call was held with the following **Commission Members Present**: Robin Norris, Doug Abbett, Sylvia Metzger, Myra Schuetter, Gloria Buecher and Don Weisheit. **Commission Members Absent**: Jerry Gagne, Don Routson, Michael Jones, Ann Hilgefert and Pat Thyen. **Staff Members Present**: Darla Blazey, Doreen Lechner, Kit Miracle, Donna Schepers and Kelley Leuck. **Regional Services Coordinator**: Jill Watson. **Guests in Attendance**: City Councilmen: Butch Schitter and Ray Howard.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Myra Schuetter moved, **Sylvia Metzger** seconded the approval of the minutes of the June 7, 2005 board meeting. Motion passed 6-0.

City Financial Statement

Darla stated that some reallocation between expense lines would be made in the next month or the following month. The General Supplies line shows a negative balance due to payment of the box office software. Once the transfers are made, the line will reflect a positive balance. **Myra Schuetter** moved to approve the financial statement. **Sylvia Metzger** seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

City Claims and Regional Partnership Grant Claims

City claims in the amount of \$4,213 were presented. Regional Partnership Grant claims in the amount of \$2,509 were presented. After conclusion of discussion, it was moved by **Myra Schuetter** to accept the claims as presented. **Sylvia Metzger** seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

Public Business

Darla introduced summer intern Megan Tretter. Megan is a graduate of DePauw University.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Visual Arts Report

Kit reported.

- June was a very busy month.
- Eight (8) summer art classes were held. All of the classes were well received. The equipment from the old middle school was well utilized. There were approximately 80 children enrolled in the classes.
- There are numerous clay pieces waiting to be fired. JCAC does not have a kiln to use. Plans had been made to use the kiln at the Habig Center. JCAC employees and Park Dept. employees are working together to arrange use of the kiln. Kit reported that next year's JCAC budget includes the purchase of a kiln.
- John Bower Photography Exhibit was last month. It was a very well received show. He also gave a free slide lecture.
- The Quilt Guild show opens July 6.
- The juried show slide entries are in. John Streetman from the Evansville Art Museum will be here on July 6 to select the artwork for the show using the slides received.

Education Report

Donna reported.

- Donna reported that Missoula Children's Theatre was a huge success and very popular. There were approximately 125 children signed up for the audition. 58 children were cast in the production. Approximately 600 people attended the two performances. There has been some discussion of possibly expanding this program. Donna suggested the idea of working with two different Missoula teams to present 2 shows.

- Donna will give a presentation at next month's meeting about the first artist selected to come to Jasper as part of the Kennedy Center partnership.

Buldings & Structures Report

Doreen had nothing to report.

Region 11 Report

Jill reported.

- The Regional Advisory Council meeting will be held on July 19th at 6:30. This meeting is one of four quarterly meetings held each year with representatives from each county in the region. They will be working on the awards ceremony which is being planned for August 25th, at 6:30 in the gallery. Legislators will be invited along with media representatives. The grant awards will be publicly announced at this ceremony.
- Jill advised that a letter was received from the Indiana Arts Commission director stating that all state agencies must hold in reserve 7% of the state appropriation for fiscal year 2006. This means that the amount of the grants approved last month may change. Notifications to the grant recipients were sent out last month stating how much money they would be receiving. Those amounts may now be changing. Some of projects have already been started. July 1st was the beginning of their grant cycle. The JCAC will be notified as soon as the IAC consults with the state budget agency. It was suggested to delay announcements of grants until confirmation is sent by the IAC.
- The advisory council will be working on the regional cultural plan. They will be trying to determine who would want to help with the interviews throughout the region. Jill will be meeting with school officials, business and community leaders and others interested in promoting the arts in the region.

Performing Arts Report

Darla reported.

- The slate for the backstage series has changed. Nashville Mandolin Ensemble could not be contracted due to routing and money. Elizabeth Keusch will also not be able to perform. Darla requested that two new artists be approved. The first selection is Dean Dorrell and Donna McCreary who will perform "An Evening with President and Mrs. Lincoln" on February 18th just in time for President's Day. A state dinner is also being planned which will include a seven-course meal similar to what could have been served at the White House during President Lincoln's term. It will be served on the backstage. The artists will also perform during the dinner. The recipes for the dinner will come from Donna McCreary's cookbook. The second artist would be Carlos Del Junco, one of the world's best harmonica players, along with a 4-piece band, set for Friday, April 28, 2006.
- **Myra Schuetter** moved to approve the new artists for the backstage series. **Gloria Buecher** seconded. Motion passed 6-0.
- Darla also passed around the current mock up of the 2005/2006 season guide.

OLD BUSINESS

Darla reported.

- Darla provided an update on the Friends of the Arts meeting held last month. Several staff members attended, along with board members—Myra Schuetter, Doug Abbett and Sylvia Metzger. Friends of the Arts would like a final set of plans from the JCAC board so they can move forward and begin discussion with city officials. City Councilman Butch Schitter stated that FOA is looking for a commitment from the city. The FOA is considering what type of money will need to be raised for a building project. Butch stated that city officials might have questions at the upcoming budget hearings that will be held in July. The City Council will need to be updated on the JCAC's long-range plans. After a lengthy discussion it was decided that Darla would meet with 2-3 board members and staff to review the 2002 building plans and bring back recommendations to the full board.

- Darla requested board members look at the 2006 budget. There are no large requests in the 2006 budget. Darla will be requesting more hours for both Donna (5 hours) and Kit (4 hours). This will allow JCAC to be able to continue with the programs for next year at the same level as this year. A new kiln was budgeted under equipment. Money was added into buildings and structures to paint the floor of the house and to restructure the ground in the back of the building. Utility bills have gone up this year, primarily from increased usage. The budget meeting is set for Monday July 25th. By consensus, the board recommended that the presented budget be prepared for consideration by the City Council.
- Darla reported that Kathy Hopf from the County Clerk's office has requested a complimentary rental of the auditorium on April 27 and November 2, 2006, to have training for the people who will work the polls on Election Day. **Doug Abbett** made the motion that the JCAC let the Dubois County Clerk rent the auditorium on a complimentary basis. **Robin Norris** seconded. Motion passed 6-0.
- Darla reported that the regional group, Generations, distributes grants to organizations that assist senior citizens 60 and older. Becky Beckman from Tri-cap RSVP would like to do a cooperative project with Tri-cap, JCAC and ACT. The project would involve offering classes, programs and field trips related to the arts for seniors. JCAC would provide a match of \$350. A coordinator would be hired, through the grant, on a part time basis to coordinate the classes and trips. ACT would contract with this individual. Some or the entire match from JCAC could be in-kind. Board members were in favor of this project.
- Doreen reported that ACT has requested she direct their spring production, "The Miracle Worker." Doreen has directed for them in the past, but in 2002 city officials felt that her JCAC job duties associated with ACT's rental of the Arts Center and serving as their director conflicted with city policies. The mayor directed her to ask for board approval if she wanted to direct a future production. With Bryan being on staff and carrying out most of the duties associated with ACT, Doreen said she could be off the clock if she would be allowed to direct for ACT. Doreen requested that the board give her approval to direct for this ACT production. **Myra Schuetter** moved that Doreen be allowed to direct for ACT. **Doug Abbett** seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

Adjournment

Gloria Buecher made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:15pm, **Myra Schuetter** seconded. Motion passed 6-0. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday August 2, 2005 at 4:30 pm.

Doug Abbett –President Pro Tem

Robin Norris-Attested